Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary

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Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary

20 September 2016

Chief Constable Martin Jelley anne.twigg1@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

Via email

Dear Martin.

HMIC Best Use of Stop and Search (BUSS) scheme revisit assessment

Further to HMI Mike Cunningham's letter dated 23 June 2016, I am writing to inform you of the findings of our assessment of your force's compliance with the Best Use of Stop and Search scheme. The revisit was carried out between 24 June 2016 and 5 August 2016, and included a review of your website and force documentation and consultation with relevant staff. Thank you for the assistance provided by your staff for this revisit.

Promoting improvements

in policing to make

HMIC's 2015 legitimacy inspection found that your force was not complying with three features of the scheme in 2015.

I am pleased to inform you that our recent assessment found that the force is now complying with all features of the scheme.

Our detailed assessment is set out at Annex A.

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Williams

HM Inspector of Constabulary

cc. PCC

Force Liaison

Annex A: 2016 Best Use of Stop and Search (BUSS) scheme revisit assessment of Warwickshire Police

BUSS scheme feature	2016 HMIC assessment
Recording and publishing the full	The force is compliant with this feature
set of outcomes including showing the connection	The force records and publishes the full range of stop and search outcomes.
between outcomes and objects	The force also records and publishes whether the outcome of searches were linked to the object(s) searched for. The data are published on the police.uk website.
	There is a clear link from the force's website to the Warwickshire Police Stop and Search Overview page on the police.uk website.
Providing opportunities for	The force is compliant with this feature
the public to observe the use of stop and search powers	The force has a ride-along scheme, promoted on its website. The force has also actively promoted the scheme using a variety of methods including Facebook, Twitter, local press and posters in police stations and community centres. Members of independent advisory groups, citizens' academies and race and equality partnerships have also been encouraged to participate. Members of the public aged 18 or over can apply to participate in the scheme. The scheme has had a good take-up and the force reports that it is currently processing 157 applications. The way the force has promoted the scheme is considered by HMIC to be good practice. The force gathers feedback from the observer and uses this to improve procedures. The force has measures in place designed to ensure the safety of observers but it is not clear if observers are issued with, and instructed to wear, high-visibility jackets during observations.

Implementing a community complaints trigger

The force is compliant with this feature

The force has a community complaints trigger. The trigger is activated by each complaint received by the force about its stop and search activities.

When the trigger is activated, each such complaint is reviewed by the professional standards department and shared with the independent advisory group (IAG) who scrutinise the details. The force is in the process of implementing independent scrutiny groups who will also oversee the use of the powers.

The force does not publish on its website information about the trigger process, but does publish anonymised details of complaints that have been reviewed by the IAG, which is considered by HMIC to be good practice.

Details of how to make a complaint about stop and search are also included on the website, which also features a 'stop and search poll' that asks subjects of stop and search to vote on whether they felt they were treated fairly by the police officer.

The receipt given to people who are stopped and searched provides details about how to make a complaint.

Reducing stop and search encounters made under section 60, Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994

The force is compliant with this feature

The force's policy and procedures in relation to searches authorised under section 60 are compliant with the Best Use of Stop and Search scheme.

Monitoring the use of stop and search powers, with particular regard to the impact on black, Asian and minority ethnic people and young people

The force is compliant with this feature

The force monitors a very comprehensive range of data in respect of ethnicity and age including, but not limited to:

- the reason for searches (e.g. drugs) by ethnicity and age;
- the outcome rates (not just the arrest rate), by ethnicity and age;
- the rate at which a positive outcome is achieved by ethnicity and age – however, this could be enhanced by monitoring the rate a which the outcome directly links to the finding of the item searched for: and
- individual officer/team data totals, outcomes and find rate, by ethnicity and age.